

## **SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 9, line 7, through line 15, please amend the current paragraph as follows:

-- The electric power steering apparatus 1 is of a so-called rack assist type, and is adapted to drive a steering assist electric motor 19 to apply a steering assist force to the third steering shaft 8. The output rotation of the electric motor 19 is converted into the axial movement of the steering shaft 8 by a ball screw mechanism 21 as a motion converting mechanism. The ball screw mechanism 21 ~~supports~~ is arranged at the other end portion 20 of the housing 13 and supports the other end portion 40 of the steering shaft 8 in an axially movable manner.--